

Symptoms of Growth, and Decay in GODLINESS, in Eighty SIGNS of a Living and Dying Christian.

Signs of a Living or Growing Christian.

Psal. 92. 12. The Righteous shall flourish like the Palm-Tree; he shall grow like a Cedar in Lebanon.

1. When your chief delight is with the Saints, especially them that excel in Virtue, *Psal. 16. 3.*
2. When the smitings of the Righteous are not a burthen to you, you can hear of your faults with affectionate attention, *Psal. 141. 5.*
3. When Jesus Christ in the midst of Temptation is more to you than all the world, *Phil. 3. 8.*
4. When Reproach for Christ makes you not ashamed of Christ, *Mark 8. 38. Hebr. 11. 26.*
5. When wandering Thoughts in time of Duty, find less entertainment, than formerly, *Psal. 139. 23. 1 Cor. 13. 11.*
6. When length of standing in the Profession of Christianity, works increase of hatred to all Sin, *Psal. 119. 104. 113.*
7. When you carry about with you a constant jealousy over your own Heart, that it turn not aside from God and Goodness, *Prov. 28. 14. 1 Cor. 9. 26. 27.*
8. When every known new Mercy begets new Thankfulness, and that with delight, *Psal. 145. 2.*
9. When known Calamity in Gods House, begets deep sorrow in your Heart, *Nehemiah 1. 4.*
10. When Gods afflicting you for your Sin, makes you love God the better, *Psal. 119. 75.*
11. When the same care and travail you at first laboured in to get Christ, is as much, if not more laboured in to keep Christ, *Hebrews 6. 11, 12.*
12. When a feeling Sense of the Peace, and Edification of the Church of God, lies so near your Heart, that you can prefer it above your chief Concerns, *Psal. 137. 6. Rom. 14. 19. 2 Cor. 11. 9. ver. 28. 29. chap. 12. 19.*
13. When under deep Distress or Languishing, the word of God is precious to you, *Psal. 119. 92.*
14. When any condition, though in its self mean, as it comes from God, is most welcome, *Job 1. 21. Hab. 3. 17, 18.*
15. When the Peace of Christs House begets chief Joy in your Heart, *Psal. 122. 7, 8, 9.*
16. When chief care to avoid all Sin, is as truly occasioned through fear of Dishonouring God, and incurring his present displeasure, as *Wrath to come, Heb. 5. 15. Gen. 39. 9.*
17. When the least apprehension of Gods withdrawing, makes you seek him more earnestly in such ways wherein he will be found, *Psal. 63. 1.*
18. When every Company is burthenfome to you, that is not designing your Fathers Glory, but derogating therefrom, *Psal. 120. 5. 2 Pet. 2. 7, 8.*
19. When the Sins of others come so near your Heart, that you walk sadly to see such Persons transgress Gods Commandments, *Psal. 119. 136.*
20. When the light of your Understanding grows more strong to your making judgement of Spiritual things according to Gods word, *Eph. 1. 18. Phil. 1. 9, 10.*
21. When bitter things become sweet to you, as they are squared by, and founded on the Will of God, *Matt. 26. 38, 39. Acts 21. 14.*
22. When the Path of the humble is so delightful, that you'd rather be with them, than in the Tents of the ungodly, *Acts 20. 19. Psal. 84. 10.*
23. When your pity is such to perishing people, that you cannot but weep at the thoughts of their Ruine, *Luke 19. 41. Jer. 9. 1. Phil. 3. 18, 19.*
24. When Prosperity doth not with allowance lift you up, nor Adversity immoderately cast you down, *Phil. 4. 11, 12.*
25. When your Resolution to follow God fully through all Difficulties, is stable, and Temptations to the contrary, tends but to your strengthening, *Acts 20. 24.*
26. When the Yoke of Self-denial as imposed by Christ Jesus, is not grievous, but pleasant to You, *Matt. 11. 29, 30. Mark 10. 28.*
27. When you are so acquainted with your Spiritual standing, that you are easily apprehensive of the least step to Decay, *1 Thess. 5. 4.*
28. When the force of the Resurrection and Judgement to come, lies so close at your Heart, that it makes you answer every Call of Christ, to do or suffer cheerfully, *2 Cor. 5. 9, 10. Acts 24. 15, 16.*
29. When the hopeful assurance of a City to come, makes you contented to be a stranger to your own, *Heb. 11. 9, 10, 13. 2 Cor. 4. 17, 18.*
30. When increase of Time in Christs acquaintance, works increase of Delight in Communion with Christ, *Psal. 92. 12, 13, 14.*
31. When in the walk of Faith you are more frequent, and less depend upon walking by Sense, *2 Cor. 5. 7. Gal. 2. 20.*
32. When you are quicker sighted at your worst part to self-abasing, than at your best part to self-admiring, *Gen. 32. 10. Ephes. 3. 8.*
33. When the Majesty of the great God, considering how visible you are in his sight, hath an awful prevalence upon your Heart, *Job 31. 4. Psal. 119. 120.*
34. When Conscience is so tender, that every little disobedient acting, grates upon, or grieves your Spirit, *2 Chro. 34. 27. Hebr. 13. 18.*
35. When you are at open war, and constant Hostility with bosom-sin, as displeasing to God, and forbidden by his Law, *Psal. 18. 23.*
36. When Heart-work is of more worth than House-work, as your Soul is more precious, than your Temporal concerns, *Exra 7. 10. Luke 10. 42.*
37. When for inward motions to any Sin, you have as truly Heart-sorrow, as for the outward acts of any Sin, both being displeasing to God, and forbidden by his word, *Psal. 119. 113. 2 Cor. 10. 4, 5.*
38. When you have a thirsting care to get the power of Godliness in your Heart, rather than the form of Godliness in the Head, or outward Profession, *2 Cor. 1. 12.*
39. When the Worship of God agreeable to his Word, is highly prized, and faithfully practised in the worst of times, *Mal. 3. 14, 15, 16. Nehem. 4. 17.*
40. When the Soul is more hungry for the word of God, than the Body is for temporal Food, *Job 23. 12. Psal. 119. 72, 162.*



Signs of a Dying or Decaying Christian.

Rev. 3. 1. I know thy Works, that thou hast a Name, that thou livest, and art dead.

1. When you are so indifferent to assemble, or frequent the Church of God, that you can come, or you can forbear to come at your own pleasure, *Heb. 10. 25.*
2. When in your solemnest Worship you are quickly weary, without warrantable cause, *Isaiah 43. 22. Amos 8. 5.*
3. When you care not to hear one matter often, though both essential, and a suitable truth, *Mal. 1. 11, 12, 13. 2 Tim. 4. 3.*
4. When few Sermons will please you, because either you like not the Matter, or Manner, or Man, or Place, *Micah 6. 3. Mal. 1. 7. 2 Cor. 10. 10.*
5. When you think you know enough, *Jer. 8. 8. 2 Cor. 11. 19.*
6. When a small occasion will keep you from Christs Table, or Communion with the Church of God, *Rom. 14. 3, 13. 1 Cor. 11. 27, 28.*
7. When you have usually no great mind to Prayer, *Job 21. 15. 1st. 43. 22.*
8. When Reading the Holy Scriptures, is usually more burthenfome than delightful, *Hos. 8. 12. 2 Cor. 34. 30, 31.*
9. When you are mighty inquisitive after novelties, rather than sound Doctrine, *Acts 17. 21. Hebr. 13. 8, 9.*
10. When you can hear of foul miscarriages in others, with little or no Heart-Remorse, *1 Sam. 3. 13. 1 Cor. 5. 2.*
11. When in your comings together, your usual talk is not savory and Heavenly, *1 Sam. 2. 3. Prov. 24. 2. 2 Cor. 12. 20. 1 Tim. 5. 13. Col. 4. 6.*
12. When you are usually so little prepared for the solemn Assemblies, that they come before you think of them, or long for them, *2 Chro. 12. 14. Lev. 10. 1, 2, 3. Mal. 1. 13.*
13. When you come to the Assembly more for fear of Brethrens Eye, than Christs Omniscient, and all-piercing Eye, *Isai. 29. 13. Job 31. 4.*
14. When the decay in Christs House less troubles you, than the decay in your own House, *Hag. 1. 9.*
15. When you can see Christs Children bowed with trouble, and you not, or little sympathize with them, *Amos 6. 6.*
16. When you will rather betray the Name of Christ Jesus and the credit of his Gospel by your silence, than appear for it to your own suffering and disparagement, *John 12. 42.*
17. When at a small offence you are usually so impatient, as to commit great Sin, *1 Cor. 3. 2. Prov. 16. 32.*
18. When you are more careful to get the words of Christs People, than the Spirit of Christs People; the Form, than the Power of Godliness, *1st. 1. 11, 12, 13, 14. Ezek. 33. 31, 32.*
19. When you are not much troubled at your own miscarriages, while they are kept from publick view, *Job 24. 14, 15.*
20. When you love least those Christians that deal most faithfully with you, in opening your sores, and tendering your remedies, *1 Kin. 22. 8. Amos 7. 10. Gal. 4. 15, 16.*
21. When under more than ordinary Troubles, Afflictions, or Straights, you are not more than ordinary in Prayer, *Dan. 9. 4. Luke 22. 44.*
22. When you are exceeding careless to enquire after the Spiritual cause of Afflictions, and exceeding careful to enquire after the natural cure of Afflictions, *Jer. 8. 6. Ezek. 14. 23.*
23. When You Pray more for Afflictions being removed from You, than Sanctified to You, *Hos. 7. 14. Joel 2. 13.*
24. When under Gods Calamities you can neither see necessity nor excellencie in humbling your selves by Fasting and Prayer, *Isai. 22. 12, 13, 14.*
25. When Gods Rod worketh so little upon you, that you can neither tell wherefore it came, nor what good it hath done, *Jer. 2. 30. chap. 5. 3.*
26. When the Thoughts of your Bosom-Lust, or any other Sin is more prevalent with you, than pleasing God, *Gen. 6. 5. Jer. 4. 14. Psal. 10. 4.*
27. When you are mighty curious about the lesser matters of Gods Law, and mighty careless about the weightier matters of Gods Law, *Mal. 2. 9. Mat. 23. 23. James 1. 25.*
28. When the Holy Spirits help in the great work of Mortification, seems not of absolute necessity to you, *Rom. 8. 13.*
29. When you are so ignorant of your Spiritual standing, that you consider not whether you grow or decay, *Hosea 7. 9. Rev. 3. 17.*
30. When length of time in Christs acquaintance, causeth lesser estimation of Communion with Christ, *Gal. 5. 7. Rev. 2. 4.*
31. When great Sins seem smaller, & small Sins seem none at all, *Jer. 16. 10. Mal. 3. 13.*
32. When your Tongue is frequent in complaining for lesser Miseries, and silent in Praising for greater Mercies, *Psal. 106. 13, 21. Isai. 26. 16.*
33. When your Sense of the great worth of Time is so small, that you are turned Prodigal, *Eccles. 7. 17. Luke 19. 44. Ephes. 5. 15, 16.*
34. When a watchful care of a Godly Life, and Christian Conversation, is more accidental, than habitual, *Ezek. 33. 31, 32. Hosea 6. 4.*
35. When care for your Body is usually most pleasant, and care for your Soul usually most irksome, *Psal. 49. 6, 7, 8. Hag. 1. 6. 9. Mark 8. 36, 37.*
36. When you are much a stranger to the Practical part of Meditation on the Word of Works of God, *Psal. 1. 21st. 42. 25. Psal. 119. 97. Psal. 143. 5.*
37. When Communication about Heavens Joy, and Hells Terror, hath less lasting Impression in duties of Obedience to God & Man, than an old Wives Fable, *Job 3. 11, 12. Isai. 28. 14, 15. Dent. 32. 15. Mark 9. 44. Luke 12. 5.*
38. When the thoughts of a dying Jesus for your Sin, doth little dissuade you from an unchristian Conversation, *Isai. 53. 4. 1 Peter 4. 3.*
39. When you can remember past Sins committed, rather with liking, than loathing, *Num. 11. 6. Ezek. 23. 21.*
40. When you can see spectacles of Mortality carrying to their long Home, and be practically as unconcerned, as though your selves were exempted from the like state of Mortality, *Dent. 32. 29. Eccles. 7. 2. Lam. 1. 2.*

Whether for HEAVEN or HELL you go,
Your HEART compar'd with these may shew.

With Allowance.